In re Application of:

CAMERON BOLITHO BROWNE, et al.

Application No.: 10/734,222

Filed: December 15, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMAGE
METADATA ENTRY

Docket No.

00169.002800.

Examiner: Sy D. Luu

Group Art Unit: 2174

Date: January 3, 2008

Mail Stop Amendment
THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

☐   No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	40	MINUS	30	= 10	x $25 $50	$500.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	13	MINUS	13	= 0	x $105 $210	$.00
Fee for Multiple Dependent claims $185°/$370						$.00
		TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT---				$500.00

*   If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.
**   If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
***   If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

☐ Verified Statement claiming small entity status is enclosed, if not filed previously.

☒ A check in the amount of $_500.00_ is enclosed.

☐ Charge $_____ to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

☒ Any prior general authorization to charge an issue fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.18 to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 is hereby revoked. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

☒ A check in the amount of $_1,050.00_ to cover the fee for a _Three_ month extension is enclosed.

☐ A check in the amount of $_____ to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee is enclosed.

☒ Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. O'Neill
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

Form #120

FCHS_WS 1841014v1

00169.002800.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
                                         :   Examiner: Sy D. Luu
CAMERON BOLITHO BROWNE, et al.   )
                                         :   Group Art Unit: 2174
Application No.: 10/734,222   )
                                         :
Filed: December 15, 2003   )
                                         :
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS   )
        FOR IMAGE METADATA   :
        ENTRY   )   February 19, 2008

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ERRONEOUS ABANDONMENT

Sir:

        This is a Petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181(a), requesting withdrawal of an

erroneous abandonment. Pursuant to § 1.181(a) and MPEP § 711.03(c), no fee is required.

However, if it is determined that a fee is required, then it should be charged to Deposit

Account No. 06-1205.

        Applicants have received a Notice of Abandonment indicating that the

above application became abandoned for failure to respond to the Office Action dated July

3, 2007. The Notice is dated January 8, 2008, which is less than two months before the

date of this Petition. The Petition is therefore timely.

        In fact, Applicants filed an Amendment on January 3, 2008, together with a

Petition for a three month extension of time with fee, using the certificate of mailing

procedures set forth at 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, by mailing the Amendment, Petition and fee in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Washington, D.C. 20231, and deposited with the U.S. Postal Services with sufficient first class postage.

Applicants have reviewed the image file wrapper, and have confirmed that the Amendment, Petition and fee were received by the PTO on January 7, 2008. Accordingly, the statement in the Notice of Abandonment, to the effect that a Reply was not received, is apparently incorrect. Copies of the Amendment, Petition For Extension Of Time and Fee Transmittal, as actually received by the PTO, and retrieved from the PTO's image file wrapper, are attached at Exhibit A. All three documents show a signed certificate of mailing, and confirm receipt by the PTO.

In view of the foregoing submissions, it is respectfully submitted that a response to the July 3, 2007 Office Action was timely filed, and it is respectfully requested to withdraw the Notice of Abandonment as erroneous.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. O'Neill
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FCHS_WS 1957978v1

00169.002800.   PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<table>
<tr><td>In re Application of:</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>:</td><td>Examiner: Sy D. Luu</td></tr>
<tr><td>CAMERON BOLITHO BROWNE, et al.</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>:</td><td>Group Art Unit: 2174</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application No.: 10/734,222</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Filed: December 15, 2003</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>For: METHOD AND APPARATUS</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>   FOR IMAGE METADATA</td><td>:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>   ENTRY</td><td>)</td><td>January 3, 2008</td></tr>
</table>

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2007, the period for response

to which having been extended to January 3, 2008 by the accompanying Petition For

Extension Of Time with fee, please amend the above-identified application, as follows:

<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please amend the claims as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of classifying one or more images, said method comprising the steps of:

~~selecting~~ <u>displaying</u> an iconic representation of ~~at least one image displayed~~ <u>each of said images</u> on a graphical user interface;

~~moving~~ <u>creating an association between at least one of</u> said <u>images and at least one predetermined metadata item representing a classification of said image, in response to the</u> iconic representation ~~to a target position~~ <u>of said image being positioned</u> within [[an]] <u>a client</u> area ~~defined by~~ <u>of</u> said graphical user interface<u>~~, according to a classification of said image~~</u>; and

~~determining an association between said at least one image and at least one predetermined metadata item representing said classification, in response to said iconic representation being positioned at said target position~~

<u>generating an iconic representation of said predetermined metadata item, for display on said graphical user interface, based on said created association.</u>

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of[[:]]

~~generating an iconic representation of said metadata item; and~~

displaying said metadata representation on said graphical user interface.

3.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[2]] 1, further comprising the steps of[[:]]

~~selecting~~ creating an association between at least ~~one~~ a further ~~iconic representation~~ one of ~~at least one further image displayed on~~ said ~~graphical user interface;~~

~~moving said iconic representation to a position defined by said displayed metadata representation; and~~

~~creating an association between said further image~~ images and said at least one metadata item, in response to the iconic representation of said further image being selected and moved to a position defined by said displayed metadata representation.

4.   (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the iconic representations of the metadata items are arranged according to a hierarchical structure.

5.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, further comprising an updating step of updating ~~wherein~~ said hierarchical structure ~~is updated~~ based on metadata items associated with at least one of said images.

6.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of storing said association between said ~~at least one~~ image and said at least one predetermined metadata item.

7.   (Currently Amended) A method of classifying one or more images, said method comprising the steps of:

~~selecting~~ displaying an iconic representation of ~~at least one image, displayed~~ each of said images on a graphical user interface;

~~moving said iconic representation to a target position within an area defined by said graphical user interface, according to a classification of said image;~~

creating an association between ~~said~~ at least one ~~image~~ of said images and at least one metadata item representing a classification of said image, in response to ~~said~~ ~~iconic representation~~ the iconic representation of said image being positioned ~~at said target~~ ~~position~~ within a client area of said graphical user interface; and

~~generating an iconic representation of said at least one metadata item~~ ~~representing said classification~~

generating an iconic representation of said at least one metadata item, for display on said graphical user interface, based on said created association, wherein said metadata representation is configured for searching on said image.

8.   (Original) A method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of displaying said metadata representation on said graphical user interface.

9.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

~~selecting~~ creating an association between at least ~~one~~ a further ~~iconic~~ ~~representation~~ one of ~~at least one further image, displayed on~~ said ~~graphical user interface;~~

moving said iconic representation to a position defined by said displayed metadata representation; and

creating an association between said further image images and said at least one metadata item, in response to the iconic representation of said further image being selected and moved to a position defined by said displayed metadata representation.

10.   (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein the iconic representations of the metadata items are arranged according to a hierarchical structure.

11.   (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein said hierarchical structure is updated based on metadata items associated with at least one of said images.

12.   (Currently Amended) A method of searching for at least one image from a plurality of images, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting displaying an iconic representation of at least one metadata item displayed on a graphical user interface;

determining an association between said at least one metadata item and said at least one image in response to selection of the iconic representation of said at least one metadata item; and

generating an iconic representation of said at least one image based on said association, said iconic representation of said at least one image being adapted for display on said graphical user interface.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of displaying said iconic representation of said at least one image on said graphical user interface.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, further comprising the steps of:

~~selecting at least one further~~ generating an iconic representation of at least ~~one further metadata item displayed~~ a further one of said images, for display on said graphical user interface[[;]] , in response to said selection of said iconic representation of said at least one metadata item

~~determining an association between said at least one further metadata item and at least one further image; and~~

~~generating an iconic representation of said at least one further image for display on said graphical user interface.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 13, wherein the iconic representations of the at least one metadata items are arranged according to a hierarchical structure of iconic representations of metadata items.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein said hierarchical structure is updated based on metadata items associated with at least one of said images.

17. (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface for representing classification relationships between one or more images and one or more metadata items, said graphical user interface comprising:

at least one portion for displaying an iconic representation of each of said images;

selection means for ~~moving at least one iconic representation of~~ positioning at least one of said ~~images displayed on said graphical user interface, to~~ iconic representations for at least one of said images within a ~~target position within an~~ client area ~~defined by~~ of said graphical user interface, according to a classification of said image; and

at least ~~one~~ another portion for displaying an iconic representation of a metadata item representing said classification, said iconic representation of said metadata data item being generated and displayed in response to said at least one iconic representation for said at least one image being positioned ~~at said target position~~ within said client area and an association between said at least one image and said metadata item representing said classification being created.

18. (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface according to claim 17, further comprising:

a further selection means for selecting said iconic representation of said at least one metadata item displayed on [[a]] said graphical user interface; and

at least one still further portion for displaying at least said iconic representation of said at least one image in response to said selection of said iconic representation of said at least one metadata item.

- 7 -

19.   (Original) A graphical user interface according to claim 18, wherein said further portion displays any further iconic representations of said one or more images, said further iconic representations being generated depending on determined associations between said one or more images and any other metadata items represented in said at least one portion.

20.   (Original) A graphical user interface according to claim 18, wherein the iconic representations of the metadata items are arranged according to a hierarchical structure.

21.   (Original) A graphical user interface according to claim 20, wherein said hierarchical structure is updated based on metadata items associated with at least one of said images.

22.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for classifying one or more images, said apparatus comprising:

selection display means for selecting displaying an iconic representation of at least one image displayed each of said images on a graphical user interface and moving said iconic representation to a target position within an area defined by said graphical user interface, according to a classification of said image; and;

determining creating means for determining creating an association between said at least one image of said images and at least one predetermined metadata item representing said a classification of said image, in response to said the iconic representation

- 8 -

of said image being positioned ~~at said target position~~ within a client area of said graphical user interface; and

generating means for generating an iconic representation of said predetermined metadata item, for display on said graphical user interface, based on said created association.

23.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for classifying one or more images, said apparatus comprising:

~~selection~~ display means for ~~selecting~~ displaying an iconic representation of ~~at least one image, displayed~~ each of said images on a graphical user interface ~~and moving said iconic representation to a target position within an area defined by said graphical user interface, according to a classification of said image~~;

creation means for creating an association between ~~said~~ at least one ~~image~~ of said images and at least one metadata item representing a classification of said image, in response to ~~said iconic representation~~ the iconic representation of said image being positioned ~~at said target position; and~~ within a client area of said graphical user interface;

generation means for generating an iconic representation of said at least one metadata item representing said classification, for display on said graphical user interface, wherein said metadata representation is configured for searching on said image.

24.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for searching for at least one image from a plurality of images, said apparatus comprising:

selection display means for selecting displaying an iconic representation of at least one metadata item displayed on a graphical user interface;

determining means for determining an association between said at least one metadata item and said at least one image in response to selection of the iconic representation of said at least one metadata item; and

generation means for generating an iconic representation of said at least one image based on said association, said iconic representation of said at least one image being adapted for display on said graphical user interface.

25.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having recorded thereon a computer program for classifying one or more images, said program comprising:

code for selecting displaying an iconic representation of at least one image displayed each of said images on a graphical user interface;

code for moving said creating an association between at least one of said images and at least one predetermined metadata item representing a classification of said image, in response to the iconic representation to a target position of said image being positioned within [[an]] a client area defined [[by]] of said graphical user interface, according to a classification of said image; and

- 10 -

~~code for determining an association between said at least one image and at least one predetermined metadata item representing said classification, in response to said iconic representation being positioned at said target position~~

code for generating an iconic representation of said predetermined metadata item, for display on said graphical user interface, based on said created association.

26.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having recorded thereon a computer program for classifying one or more images, said program comprising:

code for ~~selecting~~ displaying an iconic representation of ~~at least one image, displayed~~ each of said images on a graphical user interface;

~~code for moving said iconic representation to a target position within an area defined by said graphical user interface, according to a classification of said image;~~

code for creating an association between ~~said~~ at least one ~~image~~ of said images and at least one metadata item representing a classification of said image, in response to ~~said iconic representation~~ the iconic representation of said image being positioned ~~at said target position~~ within a client area of said graphical user interface; and

code for generating an iconic representation of said at least one metadata item ~~representing~~ for display on said graphical user interface, based on said ~~classification~~ created association, wherein said metadata representation is configured for searching on said image.

- 11 -

27.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having recorded thereon a computer program for searching for at least one image from a plurality of images, said program comprising:

code for ~~selecting~~ displaying an iconic representation of at least one metadata item ~~displayed~~ on a graphical user interface;

code for determining an association between said at least one metadata item and said at least one image in response to selection of the iconic representation of said at least least one metadata item; and

code for generating an iconic representation of said at least one image based on said association, said iconic representation of said at least one image being adapted for display on said graphical user interface.

28.   (Currently Amended) A method of searching for at least one image from a plurality of images, said method comprising the steps of:

~~selecting~~ displaying a plurality of iconic representations of metadata items ~~displayed~~ on a graphical user interface, said iconic representations of metadata items being arranged according to a hierarchical structure;

generating a query based on ~~said~~ selection of said plurality of iconic representations;

determining at least one association between one or more metadata items represented by the selected iconic representations and said at least one image based on said query; and

generating an iconic representation of said at least one image <u>based on said</u> <u>association</u>, said iconic representation of said at least one image being adapted for display on said graphical user interface.

29.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for searching for at least one image from a plurality of images, said apparatus comprising:

~~selection~~ <u>display</u> means for ~~selecting~~ <u>displaying</u> a plurality of iconic representations of metadata items ~~displayed~~ on a graphical user interface, said iconic representations <u>of metadata items</u> being arranged according to a hierarchical structure;

query generation means for generating a query based on ~~said~~ selection of said plurality of iconic representations;

determining means for determining at least one association between one or more metadata items represented by the selected iconic representations and said at least one image based on said query; and

iconic generation means for generating an iconic representation of said at least one image <u>based on said association,</u> said iconic representation of said at least one image being adapted for display on said graphical user interface.

30.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having recorded thereon a computer program for searching for at least one image from a plurality of images, said program comprising:

code for selecting displaying a plurality of iconic representations of

metadata items displayed on a graphical user interface, said iconic representations being

arranged according to a hierarchical structure;

code for generating a query based on said selection of said plurality of

iconic representations;

code for determining at least one association between one or more metadata

items represented by the selected iconic representations and said at least one image based

on said query; and

code for generating an iconic representation of said at least one image based

on said association, said iconic representation of said at least one image being adapted for

display on said graphical user interface.

31.   (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein each said metadata

item comprises at least one of a field of said iconic representation of said metadata item, a

field of a label of said metadata item, a field of a reference to said associated image and a

field of a type of said metadata item.

32.   (New) A method according to claim 31, wherein a value of said field

is editable by a user.

33.   (New) A method according to claim 31, wherein a value of at least

one said field is obtained from said associated image.

34. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said associated image is a region of a larger image.

35. (New) A method according to claim 5, wherein said updating step comprises the step of designating one said metadata item as a child item of a parent metadata item in response to an iconic representation of said one metadata item being dropped on the iconic representation of said parent metadata item.

36. (New) A method according to claim 35, further comprising the step of associating with said parent metadata item at least one image associated with said child metadata item.

37. (New) A method according to claim 5, wherein said updating step comprises the step of creating a new metadata item in response to the selection of plural iconic representations of metadata items and the positioning of said selected iconic representations at an empty point within said client area, and designating said selected metadata items as child metadata items of said new metadata item.

38. (New) A method according to claim 37, further comprising the step of associating with said new metadata item at least one image associated with one of said child metadata items.

39.   (New) A method according to claim 5, wherein said updating step comprises the steps of :

creating a new metadata item in response to the iconic representation of said associated image being dropped on the iconic representation of a second metadata item, wherein said new metadata item is a copy of said predetermined metadata item; and

designating said new metadata item as a child metadata item of said second metadata item.

40.   (New) A method according to claim 4, wherein said hierarchical structure of iconic representations of metadata items is displayed as a tree structure with expand icons indicating whether a parent iconic representation is open and displaying child iconic representations.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 3, 2007. Claims 1 to 40 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 7, 12, 17 and 22 to 30 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, 16, 20 and 21 contain allowable subject matter, and were merely objected to for their dependence on a rejected base claim.

Claims 5, 11, 16 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly lacking antecedent basis for the recitation "said images". Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 7, 12 and 17 have been amended to provide antecedent basis for the recitation "said images" in Claims 5, 11, 16 and 21, respectively. In view of these amendments, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 3, 6 to 9, 12 to 14, 17 to 19 and 22 to 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,751,286 (Barber). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention generally concerns classifying of images and searching through classified images. More specifically, the present invention involves metadata, associations between the images and the metadata, iconic representations of the metadata, and iconic representations of the images.

Independent Claims 1, 7, 17, 22, 23, 25 and 26

In an aspect of the invention as defined by independent Claims 1, 7, 17, 22, 23, 25 and 26, images are classified. Iconic representations of one or more images are displayed on a graphical user interface. An association between at least one of the images and at least one metadata item representing a classification of the image is created in response to the iconic representation of the image being positioned within a client area of the graphical user interface. Based on the created association, an iconic representation of the metadata item is generated for display on the graphical user interface.

Applicants submit that Barber fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of the present invention as claimed in Claims 1, 7, 12, 17, 22, 23, 25 or 26. Specifically, Barber is not seen to disclose or suggest classifying by (1) creating an association between at least one image and at least one metadata item representing a classification of the image, in response to an iconic representation of the image being positioned within a client area of a graphical user interface, and (2) generating an iconic representation of the metadata item, for display on the graphical user interface, based on the created association.

Barber discloses searching images in an image database in response to queries which include the visual characteristics of the images, such as colors, textures, shapes, and sizes, as well as by textual tags appended to the images. Queries are constructed in an image query construction area in response to values of the visual representations of the visual characteristics and locations of the representations in the query construction area. Prespecified values for image characteristics are represented as thumbnails, which are contained in color, texture, shape and category selection containers. A query is constructed by dragging the thumbnails of the desired image characteristics to an

example image window from the color, texture, shape and category selection containers, and a query is generated based on the thumbnails dropped into the example image window.

While Barber discloses dragging a thumbnail representing image characteristics onto the example image window, Barber is silent on positioning an iconic representation of an image within a client area of a graphical user interface to create an association between the image and metadata. Moreover, Barber is silent on generating an iconic representation of metadata based on the created association.

The invention, on the other hand, involves creating associations between images and metadata, in response to iconic representations of the images being positioned within a client area of a graphical user interface. Iconic representations of metadata items are generated, based on the created associations.

In contrast, the images stored in the image database of Barber are not positioned within a client area of a graphical user interface to create an association between at least one of the images and at least one metadata item representing a classification of the image. Instead, thumbnails corresponding to prespecified values for image characteristics are dragged onto Barber's example image window to generate a query used to search images in the image database.

In entering its rejection, the PTO focused on Barber's element labeled "Bears", as shown in Fig. 5 and described at column 9. However, as understood by Applicants, the "Bears" element was used in the rejection as both an iconic representation of an image and an iconic representation of metadata. This treatment seems improper given the language of the claims and the description in the specification. As used herein,

images and metadata are distinct concepts, and iconic representations of images are also distinct from iconic representations of metadata.

Therefore, Barber is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the claimed features of (1) creating an association between at least one image and at least one metadata item representing a classification of the image, in response to an iconic representation of the image being positioned within a client area of a graphical user interface, and (2) generating an iconic representation of the metadata item, for display on the graphical user interface, based on the created association.

Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 12, 24, 27, 28, 29 and 30

In an aspect of the invention as defined by independent Claims 12, 24 and 27 to 30, classified images are searched. An iconic representation of at least one metadata item is displayed on a graphical user interface. An association between the at least one metadata item and at least one image is determined in response to selection of the iconic representation of the metadata item. Based on the association, an iconic representation of the at least one image is generated. The iconic representation of the at least one image is adapted for display on the graphical user interface.

In view of the disclosure of Barber as discussed above, Applicants submit that Barber fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of the present invention as claimed in Claims 12, 24, 27, 28, 29 or 30. Specifically, Barber is not seen to disclose or suggest search by (1) selection of iconic representations of metadata items, and (2) generation of

iconic representations of images, based on associations between the metadata items and the images, as determined by the selection.

Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. O'Neill
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FCHS_WS 1839903v1

<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
                                               :   Examiner: Sy D. Luu
CAMERON BOLITHO BROWNE, et al.   )
                                               :   Group Art Unit: 2174
Application No.: 10/734,222   )
                                               :
Filed: December 15, 2003   )
                                               :
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS   )
        FOR IMAGE METADATA   :
        ENTRY   )   January 3, 2008

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)</u>

Sir:

        Applicants petition the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for

response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2007 for three months from October 3, 2007 to

January 3, 2008.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed
to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-
1450 on:
                        January 3, 2008
                        (Date of Deposit)

                        Michael K. O'Neill, Reg. No. 32,622
                        (Name of Attorney for Applicants)

                                          January 3, 2008
        Signature   Date of Signature

Submitted herewith is a check for $1,050.00 to cover the fee for the

extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17. Any deficiency in or overpayment of this fee should be

charged or credited to Deposit Account 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this petition is

enclosed.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to

our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. O'Neill
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200